

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The applicants have studied the office action mailed December 21, 2007, and have made the changes believed appropriate to place the application in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the finality of the present rejection of this latest office action. It is respectfully submitted that the final rejection is based on new grounds of rejection as conceded by the Examiner, and is based upon references (Arend and Aureglia) not previously cited by the Examiner. The Examiner has taken the position that the new grounds of rejection were necessitated by the "Applicants amendments." However, it is respectfully submitted that Applicants' response filed November 9, 2007 contained NO amendments. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the finality of the present rejection of this latest office action.

Claims have been amended to overcome rejections raised for the first time by the Examiner in the latest Office Action. It is submitted that these amendments place the claims in better form for appeal. These amendments were not presented earlier because they were deemed appropriate to advance prosecution after receipt of the latest Office Action. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to enter and consider these amendments after the final rejection.

Although Applicants amended claims to overcome the unpatentable rejection, Applicants are not conceding in this application that the claims in their pre-amended form are invalid for being unpatentable, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue these and other claims in this present application and one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Claims 30, 40, 44-50, 51, and 52 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arend et al ("Arend" 20030229848 A1) in view of Aureglia et al ("Aureglia" 20030188257 A1). Claims 31, 41, and 53 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arend et al ("Arend" 20030229848 A1) and Aureglia et al ("Aureglia" 20030188257 A1) as applied to claims 30, 40, 50, 51, and 52 above, and further in view of Mandrakesoft (Copyright 2003). Claim 42 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arend et al ("Arend" 20030229848 A1) and Aureglia et al ("Aureglia" 20030188257 A1) and MandrakeSoft {Copyright 2003} as applied to claim 41 above, and further

in view of Luque (2004/0119749 A1) Claims 32-39, 43, 54, and 55 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arend et al ("Arend" 20030229848 A1), Aureglia et al ("Aureglia" 20030188257 A1) as applied to claims 30, 40, 50, 51, and 52 above, and further in view of Luque ((2004/0119749 A1). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

For example, claim 51 is directed to a “method for controlling how data is presented in a tabular display, comprising: presenting to a user a display having a view configuration widget providing a graphical interface object having a matrix of rows and columns of selectable elements representing a corresponding matrix of preconfigured filters including a preconfigured column filter associated with each column of selectable elements for filtering columns of a table for display according to predetermined criteria and a preconfigured row filter associated with each row of selectable elements for filtering rows of said table for display according to predetermined criteria; accepting user input to select a selectable element to implement a combination filter associated with the selectable element selected by the user to display a preset configuration of rows and columns of the table wherein said combination filter is a combination of the row filter and the column filter associated with the selected element; and presenting a display of the preset configuration of rows and columns to the user.”

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner’s citations to the Arend reference fail to teach or suggest preconfigured column filters. On the contrary, although the filter row 238 discussed in paragraphs 33 and 34 cited by the Examiner appears to permit row filtering, the Examiners citations to the Arend reference fail to teach or suggest column filtering.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner’s citations to the Arend reference fail to teach or suggest the combination of “presenting to a user a display having a view configuration widget providing a graphical interface object having a matrix of rows and columns of selectable elements representing a corresponding matrix of preconfigured filters including a preconfigured column filter associated with each column of selectable elements for filtering columns of a table for display according to predetermined criteria and a preconfigured row filter associated with each row of selectable elements for filtering rows of said table for display according to predetermined criteria; accepting user input to select a selectable element to implement a combination filter associated with the selectable element selected by the user to display a preset configuration of rows and columns of the table wherein said combination filter is a combination of the row filter and the column filter associated with the selected element; and

presenting a display of the preset configuration of rows and columns to the user” as required by claim 51.

With respect to the Aureglia reference, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner’s citations to the Aureglia reference fail to teach or suggest either preconfigured row filters or preconfigured column filters as required by claim 51. Instead, the tabs 261-263 discussed in paragraphs 76 and 77 cited by the Examiner, appear to be for selecting pages rather than filtering rows or columns.

It is noted that the Aureglia reference describes a “Synthetic Focus Manager (SFM)” which has not been cited by the Examiner. The SFM is said to permit “displaying or hiding elements (rows/columns/sheets) of a range of cells (or table) on a user interface window.” Aureglia, paragraph [0122]. FIGs. 15-18 appear to depict various user interface windows for such focus management. However, it is respectfully submitted that the SFM of the Aureglia reference fails to teach or suggest the combination of “presenting to a user a display having a view configuration widget providing a graphical interface object having a matrix of rows and columns of selectable elements representing a corresponding matrix of preconfigured filters including a preconfigured column filter associated with each column of selectable elements for filtering columns of a table for display according to predetermined criteria and a preconfigured row filter associated with each row of selectable elements for filtering rows of said table for display according to predetermined criteria; accepting user input to select a selectable element to implement a combination filter associated with the selectable element selected by the user to display a preset configuration of rows and columns of the table wherein said combination filter is a combination of the row filter and the column filter associated with the selected element; and presenting a display of the preset configuration of rows and columns to the user” as required by claim 51.

The deficiencies of the Examiner’s citations to the Arend and Aureglia references are not met by the Examiner’s citations to the MandrakeSoft and Luque references. The Examiner has cited the MandrakeSoft reference as showing a matrix of buttons and the Luque reference as showing a drop down menu. However, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner’s citations to the Arend, Aureglia, MandrakeSoft and Luque references, considered alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the combination of “presenting to a user a display having a view configuration widget providing a graphical interface object having a matrix of rows and columns

of selectable elements representing a corresponding matrix of preconfigured filters including a preconfigured column filter associated with each column of selectable elements for filtering columns of a table for display according to predetermined criteria and a preconfigured row filter associated with each row of selectable elements for filtering rows of said table for display according to predetermined criteria; accepting user input to select a selectable element to implement a combination filter associated with the selectable element selected by the user to display a preset configuration of rows and columns of the table wherein said combination filter is a combination of the row filter and the column filter associated with the selected element; and presenting a display of the preset configuration of rows and columns to the user” as required by claim 51.

Independent claims 30, 40, 50 and 52 may be distinguished in a similar fashion.

The rejection of the dependent claims is improper for the reasons given above.

Moreover, the dependent claims include additional limitations, which in combination with the base and intervening claims from which they depend provide still further grounds of patentability over the cited art.

The Examiner has made various comments concerning the anticipation or obviousness of certain features of the present inventions. Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants have addressed those comments directly hereinabove or the Examiner’s comments are deemed moot in view of the above response.

Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims are patentable. Should any additional fees be required beyond those paid, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0466.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at (310) 553-7970 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

Dated: February 21, 2008

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